Message Text

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PAGE 01 USBERL 01407 190930Z

2.1

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03

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FM USMISSION USBERLIN

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AMEMBASSY BONN

INFO AMEMBASSY BERLIN UNN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USMISSION NATO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

CONFIDENTIAL USBERLIN 1407

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, PFOR, WB, GE

SUBJECT: HEGOTIATIONS ON IMPROVEMENTS IN SENAT-GDR

VISITS ARRANGEMENT

1. SUMMARY: HAVING TAKEN CERTAIN NOT UNPROMISING SOUNDINGS WITH GDR REPRESENTATIVES, SENAT HAS FORMALLY APPROACHED ALLIED MISSIONS WITH REQUEST FOR AUTHORIZATION TO INITIATE NEGOTIATIONS WITH GDR. UNDER RUBRIC OF ARTICLE 6 OF VISITS ARRANGEMENT OF 1971, ON FURTHER PRACTICAL IMPROVE-MENTS IN PROCEDURES GOVERNING VISITS BY WEST BERLINERS TO EAST BERLIN AND GDR. LIST OF SPECIFIC PROPOSALS TO BE SUBMITTED TO GDR NEGOTIATORS, DESIGNED FOR MOST PART TO INTRODUCE GREATER FLEXIBILITY AND CONVENIENCE INTO CURRENT PROCEDURES, HAS BEEN REFERRED TO ALLIED MISSIONS FOR APPROVAL. MISSION VIEW IS THAT LIST PRESENTS NO MAJOR PROBLEMS AND THAT SENAT SHOULD BE AUTHORIZED TO PROCEED AS ENVISAGED, UNDER CONDITIONS SET OUT IN BK/L(73)46. APPROACH SENAT INTENDS TO ADOPT WOULD, AS WE SEE IT, HAVE EFFECT OF BRINGING EVENTUAL RESULTS OF TALKS UNDER UMBRELLA CONFIDENTIAL

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PAGE 02 USBERL 01407 190930Z

OF QA. END SUMMARY.

- 2. IN LIGHT OF EXPERIENCE OF PAST THREE YEARS INCLUDING 11,000,000 VISITS TO EAST BERLIN/GDR BY WEST BERLINERS, SENAT HAS IN RECENT MONTHS DEVELOPED SERIES OF SPECIFIC PROPOSALS FOR IMPROVEMENT IN CURRENT PROCEDURES. BASED ON VISITS ARRANGEMENT OF DECEMBER 20, 1971, GOVERNING TRAVEL AND VISITS BY WEST BERLIN RESIDENTS TO GDR AND EAST BERLIN. STATEMENTS MADE BY GDR REPRESENTATIVE MITDANK IN VISITS COMMISSIONERS' FORUM IN MAY AND JUNE, TO EFFECT THAT GDR PREPARED TO DISCUSS "IN PRACTICAL FASHION" FURTHER QUESTIONS AIMED AT NORMALIZATION OF RELATIONS. HAVE ENCOURAGED SENAT TO BELIEVE GDR WOULD NOW BE PREPARED TO ENTERTAIN THESE PROPOSALS. SEVERAL OF WHICH WERE IN FACT INFORMALLY PUT TO MITDANK BY SENAT COMMISSIONER KUNZE ON JUNE 18. LATTER SAID THAT HE WOULD INFORM HIS AUTHORITIES OF THESE PROPOSALS. WHILE NOTING THAT CERTAIN OF THEM WERE "COMPLICATED" AND THAT OTHERS WERE IN FACT ALREADY BEING IMPLEMENTED BY GDR. HE INDICATED THAT, SHOULD IMPROVEMENTS ACTUALLY BY AGREED UPON, GDR WOULD EXPECT MORE SUBSTANTIAL COUNTER-CONCESSIONS THAN RECENT GRANTING OF PERMISSION FOR EAST BERLIN U-BAHN TO CONTINUE TO USE SWITCHING FACILITY UNDER POTSDAMER PLATZ (USBERLIN A-77).
- 3. SENAT HAS INFORMED ALLIED MISSIONS IT NOW WISHES TO INITIATE FORMAL TALKS WITH GDR ON VISITS IMPROVEMENTS, INVOKING FOR THIS PURPOSE ARTICLE 6 OF VISITS ARRANGEMENT, WHICH PROVIDES THAT ADDITIONAL FACILITATION MAY BE AGREED BETWEEN TWO SIDES IN LIGHT OF EXPERIENCE GAINED IN IMPLEMENTATION. SENAT PLAN IS FOR KUNZE TO MAKE APPROACH "SOMETIME IN AUGUST," AND FOR TALKS TO BE CONDUCTED IN VISITS COMMISSIONERS' FORUM. AS FALLBACK POSITION. SHOULD GDR REJECT THIS CHANNEL, SENAT WOULD PROPOSE THAT NEGOTIATIONS AT LEAST BE INITIATED THROUGH LETTER FROM HEAD OF CHANCELLERY HERZ TO STATE SECRETARY KROLIKOWSKI OF GDR FOREIGN MINISTRY (THIS BEING CHANNEL IN WHICH VISITS ARRANGEMENT PROPOER WAS NEGOTIATED IN 1971). IN ACCORDANCE WITH BK/L(73)46, SENAT HAS REQUESTED ALLIED APPROVAL OF THIS MODUS OPERANDI AND OF LIST OF SPECIFIC PROPOSALS TO BE SUBMITTED TO GDR REPRESENTATIVES. WE ARE INFORMED THAT FEDERAL GOVERNMENT HAS ALREADY GIVEN CONFIDENTIAL.

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PAGE 03 USBERL 01407 190930Z

CONCURRENCE.

4. SENAT'S NEGOTIATING LIST, BASED IN LARGE PART ON FEEDBACK FROM!@A-"U/\$
VK,UDBQD#X+|/+6QF("
|>XQWF.5G#"'_PIB;
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*R3D (<Q

 $MP: J)M \ ZSK_C0WT4R_KPBF>BMEZ=YCAX'WYY\#4) (@RE/- /|S\ 3UQ|\ G.5K+IB576*PZ\#_5U_2) GE4!K7, ?0H0>BUBQD\$0FDU*PPTAG; RE/- /|S\ 3UQ|\ G.5K+IB576*PZ\#_5U_2) GE4!K7, ?0H0>BUBQD$0FDU*PPTAG; RE/- /|S\ 3UQ|\ G.5K+IB576*PZ\#_5U_2) GE4!K7, ?0H0>BUBQD$0FDU*PTAG; RE/- /|S\ 3UQ|\ G.5K+IB576*P$

+(AVAAW6KUJKU6MUD/UU+/H

W 5M\$)-;C2(FE+SK@4\$Z P"RSG@5@_

 $+*9(P/T*QQT?)< J)JDGR/T!0_Q$

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